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# THE BIBLICAL WORLD

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## EDITORIAL LETTER.

### TO THE READERS:

It is most important, first of all, in any kind of work to have in mind definitely and distinctly the purpose sought to be accomplished. With this purpose always before us, we are in a position to do what otherwise would be impossible. Work performed on the "hand to mouth" principle—that is, doing next what happens to seem easiest, without reference to a general plan or purpose—is, for the most part, poorly done. It is hoped that the various statements concerning the purpose of Sunday-school work presented in the symposium on this subject in this number may assist those of our readers who are interested in such work to formulate more carefully for themselves their motive and the definite thing which they are trying to accomplish.

From almost every point of view, too many books are being published in these days. This is surely true from the reader's point of view, for it is impossible for the ordinary reader to find time to read any considerable proportion of the books along any special line of thought which are being issued from the press. It is true also from the point of view of the buyer, since few, if any, are able to provide the means for the purchase of even a small proportion of the books in which one may be interested.

What, now, shall one do who has only a small amount of money to spend and a small amount of time at his disposal? We make the following suggestions:

1. Do not purchase, or even read, a book until it has been thoroughly reviewed.

2. Read several reviews of a book before undertaking to read the book itself.

3. To this end arrange to have access, in one way or another, to journals in which large space is given to the review of current books.

After all, there are only a few books which one should feel compelled to read, the number being surprisingly small. If only care is exercised, both time and money may be easily saved.

Another great scholar has been called home to rest. Within a few days the death of Professor William Henry Green, of Princeton, has been announced. Readers of the *BIBLICAL WORLD* will recall the many important contributions made by him to its pages. The writer remembers with great pleasure the occasion of his first meeting with Professor Green. It was in his study, at Princeton, nearly twenty-five years ago. The warm and cordial reception, and the encouragement which he gave in connection with work proposed, will never be forgotten. Professor Green for many years has seemed to be the father of all who were engaging in Old Testament work. The sons in his great family did not all agree with each other, nor with him, in reference to the details of the work or in reference to the results; but all alike esteemed most highly the kind and strong man who in his old age seemed even kinder and stronger than before. A full statement of Professor Green's work and a tribute to his memory will be published in an early number of the *BIBLICAL WORLD*.

THE EDITORS.